



HARVEST 2025

According to official statistics issued by the Meteorological Office the summer of 2025 was the hottest summer on record in the U.K. Many of us found the excessive heat (4 heatwaves recorded) to be so overpowering it became difficult to undertake the normal daily tasks. The hot weather started in June with high temperatures and continued through until late August. Mid-July saw the implementation of a hosepipe ban affecting Kent & Sussex; brought in to conserve water and help reservoirs and groundwater reserves. The lack of water has resulted in the yield of some crops being a disappointment to the growers.

While we were experiencing a heatwave, parts of southern and eastern Spain were being hit with torrential rain with roads turned into rivers.

We are continually being told that the increase in exceptional and extreme weather patterns is due to pollution caused by burning fossil fuels, and that unless we massively reduce carbon emissions things will continue to get worse.

If you want to read about extreme weather conditions 3,000 years ago, why not turn to the little book of Jonah in your Bible near the end of the Old Testament (about 2 pages of print). Here God told Jonah to go and preach to the people of Nineveh. You will read how Jonah disobeyed God and went in the opposite direction to God's instructions, resulting in him experiencing a great storm and him being thrown into the sea, where he was swallowed by a great fish (chapter 1). Later in the book (chapter 4) he is found needing shade to protect himself from the excessive heat. He would have been spared both of these if he had been obedient to God's instructions.

Weather patterns may change but God's Word remains the same today as it did in the time of Noah. Following the great flood God said in Genesis 8 v22 "while the earth remaineth seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease".

You are invited to join with us at the Chapel on any Sunday at 11 & 2:30 when you will hear more of what God's Word has to say to us. Also please join us on Sunday 5th October at 11am & 3pm when we will be giving thanks to our God for this year's harvest.

Elwyn Sweetman

O Lord of heaven and earth and sea,
to thee all praise and glory be;
how shall we show our love to thee,
who givest all?

The golden sunshine, vernal air,
sweet flowers and fruits, thy love declare;
where harvests ripen, thou art there,
who givest all.

For peaceful homes and healthful days,
for all the blessings earth displays,
we owe thee thankfulness and praise,
who givest all.

Thou didst not spare thine only Son,
but gav'st him for a world undone,
and freely, with that blessed One,
thou givest all.

For souls redeemed, for sins forgiven,
for means of grace and hopes of heaven,
Father, all praise to thee be given,
who givest all.

We lose what on ourselves we spend,
we have as treasure without end
whatever, Lord, to thee we lend,
who givest all.

To thee, from whom we all derive
our life, our gifts, our power to give:
O may we ever with thee live,
who givest all.



Five Ash Down Chapel

Harvest Thanksgiving Services

Sunday 5th October at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Speaker - Mr Tim Hemington

Weekly Programme

Sunday services are at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study

(phone Secretary for venue)

Contact details

Elwyn Sweetman (Secretary) Tel: 01825 733391

www.fiveashdownchapel.org.uk